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# 2014 Drought Response Report

## State Operations Center

### Situation Brief – March 7, 2014



# Situational Summary

Information as of 3/5/14

Strong winter storms hit California beginning Wednesday 2/26/14 through Sunday 3/2/14 bringing heavy rain and snow across the state. Both Northern and Southern California received significant rain, and the Sierra Nevada's gained substantial snowpack. Northern California continues to experience showers throughout the week. Even with this significant precipitation, the state continues to be in a severe drought. Reservoir levels remain low despite these recent storms. The drought could result in severe impacts to municipal water supplies, wells, agriculture (plants and livestock) and firefighting capabilities for several months. The State Operations Center (SOC) continues to be activated to monitor the situation statewide, and support regional and local operational areas.

The Drought Task Force leaders traveled to Merced for another of its local meetings on Tuesday, 3/4/14. The Taskforce continues to meet weekly to take actions that conserve water and coordinate state response to the drought.

- Sixteen counties and four Native American tribes have proclaimed a local state of emergency as a result of the drought. The California Public Utilities Commission regulates all for-profit water utilities in the state and has ordered private water utilities to implement 20% voluntary water use reductions.
- The recent snowpack survey conducted on 2/27/14, recorded California snowpack at 24% of normal. A more recent update using automated devices after the recent storm (March 6) shows snowpack at 33% of normal.
- DWR has announced that water essential for health and safety will be delivered through the state water project in spite of the zero allocation policy. Deliveries will be boosted if storms produce enough rain and snow to increase reservoir storage and the snow pack.

# Situational Summary (cont'd)

Information as of 3/4/14

- On March 4<sup>th</sup> and 5<sup>th</sup> the Groundwater Resources Association of California [held](#) a conference [at McClellan Park in Sacramento](#) to discuss groundwater issues and water management and strategies addressing challenges of Sustainability and Drought in California. It was organized in cooperation with *The U.S. Society for Irrigation and Drainage Professionals* (USCID)
- Cal OES continues to gather drought-related costs from state agencies and local governments.

# Drought Impacts

## 1. Drinking Water (Information as of 3/3/14)

- Despite the “zero” allocation, water essential for health and safety will still be delivered. Nearly all people and areas served by the State Water Project also have other sources of water, but most of these also are stressed by three successive dry years. Deliveries will be boosted if storms produce enough rain and snow to increase reservoir storage and the snow pack.
- The California Department of Public Health (CDPH) is providing technical and funding assistance to help several communities facing near-term drinking water shortages and is monitoring water systems across the state to determine where else it can provide support. It is expected that the current winter storms will help to recharge ground water for local wells.
- (CDPH) activated an Information Line to answer concerns or questions about public drinking water systems. Contact (855) 737-1796, Monday through Friday, 8:00 AM to 5:00 PM, effective Monday, February 24, 2014.

## 2. Fires (Information as of 3/3/14)

- Fire risk, which has been high, will be lower as a result of the two storm systems [which passed](#) through the state [on 2/26/14](#), and [2/28/14](#). CALFIRE reports that this current fire activity is well above the year-to-date average of [200](#) fires, burning [626](#) acres.

# Drought Impacts (continued)

## 3. Economic Impacts (Information as of 3/3/14)

- Agriculture Secretary Tom Vilsack declared two more California counties, Riverside and San Diego official disaster areas, bringing the total number of counties in this category to 56 of the 58 counties. Farmers in these counties are eligible for low interest emergency loans and other disaster assistance programs.
- By law, SBA makes Economic Injury Disaster Loans (EIDLs) available when the U. S. Secretary of Agriculture designates an agricultural disaster. Agriculture Secretary Tom Vilsack declared this disaster on February 26, 2014.
- No information is available yet regarding impact on labor due to drought. Employment Development Department (EDD) will be sending weekly updates.

## 4. Agricultural Impacts (Information as of 3/3/14)

- On Tuesday, 3/4/14, California Department of Food and Agriculture met at University of California-Merced to discuss the drought's impact on farmers, ranchers, and farmworkers.

## 5. Community Impacts (Information as of 3/3/14)

- Farmworker groups will be participating in the meeting on 3/4/14 at the University of California-Merced

# Federal Resources/Actions

Information as of 3/3/14

- Water managers from the U.S. Bureau of Reclamation have announced initial 2014 water allocations to those who receive water from the federal Central Valley Water Project. These allocations include 0% projected allocation to agriculture users south of the Delta, similar to the Department of Water Resources (DWR) allocation in late January, which reflect historic lows in available water. The Bureau will update these allocations in the coming months based on changes in precipitation and drought conditions.
- The Bureau of Reclamation also highlighted last week longer term actions that will increase the reliability and sustainability of the federal water system in California. These federal actions align with California state government's recently released Water Action Plan.
- The National Aeronautical and Space Administration (NASA) announced it will apply remote sensing technology to detail impacts of the drought, such as fallowed fields and reduced groundwater supplies. NASA is providing this information to the state's DWR to help manage water resources.



# State Resources

Information as of 3/3/14

Governor Brown signed emergency legislation that provides funding for shovel-ready water projects and emergency assistance to communities hurt by the drought. The proposal also streamlines state rules to enable more water recycling, strong enforcement of water rights and housing assistance to migrant workers. Funding in the bill includes:

- \$549 million for infrastructure grants to increase storm water capture and use of recycled water, improve management of groundwater storage, and strengthen water conservation.
- \$40 million from the proceeds of the state's cap-and-trade program to help local water agencies improve their water and energy efficiency, help farmers upgrade irrigation and water pumping systems to reduce water and energy use, and to enable retrofits in commercial and residential buildings that improve water and energy efficiency.
- \$25 million for emergency food assistance in areas hard-hit by the drought.
- \$21 million for housing-related assistance to drought victims.
- \$15 million to help communities that face drinking water shortages access alternative water supplies.
- \$14 million to improve groundwater management across the state, including help to disadvantaged communities with groundwater contamination exacerbated by the drought.

# State Resources

Information as of 3/3/14

- The California Department of Public Health is providing technical and funding assistance to help several communities facing near-term drinking water shortages and is monitoring water systems across the state to determine where else it can provide support. Updated information can be found at the CDPH Drinking Water Program website.
- The California Water Commission is holding a workshop in San Diego this week to discuss the impacts of drought on small water systems. State and local agencies will explore how to help small water systems challenged by the drought.
- On Friday, 2/28/14, the State Water Board's Executive Director extended the Temporary Urgency Change approved 1/31/14, which allows large reservoirs upstream from the Delta to reduce flows from their reservoirs in order to retain water supplies for later in the year.



# State Advance/Strategic Planning

Information as of 2/18/14

State actions looking forward for 30, 60,120 days ahead will focus on:

- State and federal funding and legislative actions.
- Agricultural support, including USDA programs and other assistance to farmers.
- Actions to address water system operations and water supply, including curtailments, transfers, delta emergency actions.
- Actions to assess and assist with emergency needs related to drinking water.
- Assessment of hydropower generation, and any direct or indirect impacts to the electricity supply.
- Actions to address long-term habitat preservation.
- Community support needs and delivery of needed services such as food, rental/housing assistance, utilities assistance and support to non-profit organizations.
- Public health and safety issues such as increased fire threat, security threats, and activation of contingency plans.

# Current Missions

Information as of 2/28/14

## Open Missions:

1. 2014-Inland-2185 Tuolumne County does not have a water master or any alternative resources to assist in determining the health of their ground water system. Tuolumne County has requested state agency expertise to assist with this determination. DWR has taken the lead and is coordinating with CDPH and State Water Resources Control Board (SWRCB) to gather recent groundwater level and water quality information that can be used to populate a GIS map. DWR has produced a one page information paper outlining this information and expertise the State can offer. This information paper has been forwarded to Inland Region and they have submitted it to the County. DWR and CDPH representatives are attending a meeting in Sonora, CA on 2/28/14.

# CDPH Drinking Water Critical Systems

Information as of 3/5/14

System Name	County	District/LPA	Location
Camp Condor	Kern	Tehachapi	Taft, CA
Lake of the Woods MWC	Kern	Tehachapi	Frazier Park, CA
Whispering Pines Apts	Mariposa	Merced	Mid-Pines, CA
City of Willits	Mendocino	Mendocino	Willits, CA
Redwood Valley CWD	Mendocino	Mendocino	Redwood Valley, CA
Ophir Gardens	Placer	LPA	Auburn, CA

## Notes:

LPA = Local Primary Agency Usually a County Environments Health Department

CWS = Community Water System

CWD = County Water System

CSD = Community Service District

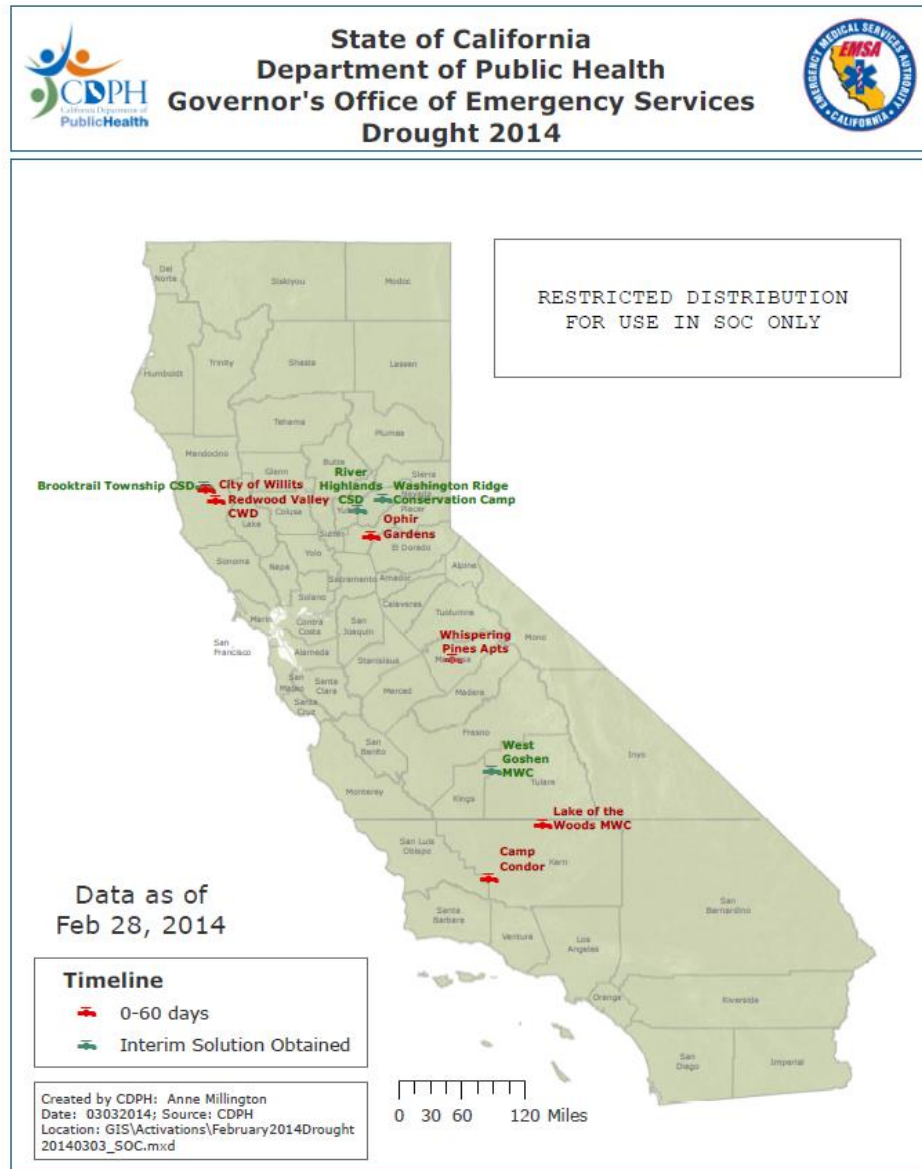
MWC = Mutual Water Company



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# CDPH Drinking Water Critical Systems

Information as of 3/5/14



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# CDFA Information Sessions on Drought Resources

Information as of 2/26/14

California Department of Food and Agriculture and the U.S. Department of Agriculture will be holding informational sessions on drought resources for farmers, ranchers and farmworkers in several locations throughout the state

Tentative Date	Time	Venue	Address	City
3/19/2014	TBD	Mendocino County	TBD	Cloverdale

# County Drought Task Force Meetings

Information as of 3/4/14

County Drought Task Force Upcoming Meetings		
Inland Region		
County	Previous Meetings	Upcoming Meetings
Amador	3/2/2014	
Butte	2/18/2014	5/19/2014
Fresno		3/10/2014
Madera	2/18/2014	3/11/2014
Merced		3/19/2014
Modoc	2/25/2014	
Nevada	1/22/2014	2/28/2014
Placer	2/19/2014	3/12/2014
Plumas	2/24/2014	3/17/2014
Sacramento	2/21/2014	3/7/2014
San Joaquin	2/19/2014	3/19/2014
Siskiyou	2/19/2014	
Solano		
Stanislaus	3/3/2014	3/19/2014
Sutter		3/13/2014
Tehama		
Tulare		3/10/2014
Tuolumne	2/28/2014	3/28/2014
Coastal Region		
County	Previous Meetings	Upcoming Meetings
Mendocino	2/26/2014	
Monterey		
San Mateo		3/18/2014
Santa Clara	2/27/2014	
Southern Region		
County	Previous Meetings	Upcoming Meetings
San Luis Obispo		3/11/2014
Santa Barbara		3/12/2014



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# County Updates

## Mendocino County (as of 3/4/14):

- The emergency proclamation will be renewed week of 3/10/14.
- Redwood Valley County Water District lost water rights the week of February 24th. Public Health Drinking Water to try and set up a meeting to facilitate working on this issue along with a drought contingency plan with all the Russian River/lake Mendocino water companies. It was discovered that the Sonoma County Water Agencies have something to this effect already set up and are looking at joining in with that already existing contingency plan.
- Brooktrails reservoirs are currently at 85% and applied for Prop 84 funding but did not receive funding.
- City of Willits: Reservoirs continue to rise and this combined with the new wells have taken them off Public Health Drinking Water's immediate list if concerns.
- Public Health Drinking Water is planning the first of a two day visit to coastal water systems on March 6th. There have been some smaller water systems complaining of decreasing groundwater levels. The town of Mendocino reported there has been an alarming number of dry wells. Due to 60% normal rainfall, it is being considered moving from Stage 3 to Stage 4 which will require mandatory 40% reductions in groundwater extraction by property owners as well as other water use restrictions.
- The District is interested in expanding their recycled water system to offset groundwater extraction used for irrigation, funding would be needed for this project. They also have a shovel ready groundwater quality protection project, the Mendocino Groundwater Quality Assessment which would initiate groundwater quality monitoring to identify and assess areas vulnerable to groundwater contamination with the goal of maintaining a safe water supply. Households have been limited to 125 gallons of water per day.

# County Updates (continued)

## **San Joaquin County (as of 3/4/14):**

- The Board of Supervisors passed a Continuance of the Local Emergency for Drought on 2/25/14.
- San Joaquin Irrigation districts began irrigation March 3rd on a modified schedule. The new schedule should save about 35,000AF.
- The next DTF meeting will be held March 19, 2014 and a recommendation of action for the Board of Supervisors will be developed.
- Most cities/agencies are maintaining a minimum 20% voluntary conservation measure and enforcement of municipal codes for water waste.
- Cattle and crop production decisions going forward will be based on water availability as well as the cost to get to market for both commodities.

## **Alameda County (as of 3/3/14)**

- The county does not have a water emergency proclamation or a drought task force. Alameda County Water will hold a public hearing on 3/13/14 on a proposed ordinance to declare water restrictions of 20%.

## **Sonoma County (as of 3/3/14)**

- City approved to use recycled treated water for livestock, though the state has issues and there may be pending state legislation to let this happen.

# County Updates (continued)

## **Santa Clara County (as of 3/4/14):**

- No proclamation, no official Task Force, no resource requests and OES working with Agriculture Commissioner to monitor PH and water systems. Current total storage in comparison to the average (20-year) total storage for the current month is about 52% which is up from 49%.

## **Mariposa County (as of 3/4/14):**

- One of the main water sources, Merced River, is flowing at over 400 cfs which makes 32 straight days for MPUD ability to pump water. This has had a positive impact on the district. The reservoirs are seeing minimal uptake from the last set of storms. Creeks and small streams have minor sediment seen.

## **Shasta County (as of 3/4/14):**

- Continues to monitor weather and issues that arise; currently are working on rationing/conservation techniques for the areas. No word of DTF being formed in Shasta Co.

## **Modoc County (as of 3/4/14):**

- Modoc County issued an emergency drought proclamation on 3/4/14.

## **Trinity County (as of 3/5/14):**

- We continue to monitor the water situation in the county. At this time the two major water providers are not concerned with water supplies but will continue to comply with the governor's 20% voluntary reduction request. County board of supervisors will be conducting a public meeting with county OES and the heads of the two water districts on March 11th. This is a briefing and information meeting that will also be reported to and open to the public. Other issues remain the same as previously reported.

# County Updates (continued)

## Placer County (as of 3/4/14):

- Nevada Irrigation District anticipates they will declare a drought in March. San Juan Water District approved a stage 3 water warning which requires all customers to cut their water use by 25%. Nevada Irrigation District is nearing stage III in their drought contingency plan (15%-25% reduction), this will be discussed at their March 12th board meeting.
- The Sierra Lakes County Water District has prepared a Water Conservation Plan and submitted it to the State Water Resources Control Board for review; implementation will begin on July 1, 2014. The Water Conservation Plan includes public education, system leakage reduction, and fixture retrofit and fixture rebate programs. The cost of the rebate program is ~\$4,300/year and the District will include funding in the Fiscal Year 2014-15 budget.
- Placer and Sacramento County OES met with San Juan Water District (SJWD) and Cal OES Inland Region coordinated on Monday, March 3<sup>rd</sup>. Discussion on regional cost issues for water providers who serve two or more counties as in the case of SJWD. SJWD is working on both drought specific and drought mitigation projects at Folsom Lake which will impact BOTH Placer and Sacramento counties.
- Placer County has a drought task force meeting scheduled for Wednesday, March 12, 2014, at 3:00 p.m.

## Tuolumne County (as of 3/4/14)

- Tuolumne County has a drought task force meeting scheduled for Friday, March 28, 2014, at 10:00 a.m.

## Kings County (as of 3/4/14)

- The city is planning to additionally reduce watering of landscaping on city properties by 25 percent. The city will also restrict the flushing fire hydrants to the minimum required by the fire department.

# County Updates (continued)

## Fresno County (as of 3/4/14)

- Fresno County OES met this past week with local stakeholders from Agriculture, Water, Social Services and Fire to review current drought impacts and to refine the system for reporting changes as they occur. No Municipal Water Systems are currently reporting water shortage problems. The jurisdictions have indicated that they feel they will be okay with the reduced water that they will receive. Cities are concerned about the expected increased costs for water and some are seeking USDA assistance to help cover these costs.
- Fresno County Agriculture Commissioner is working with the County Farm Bureau to attempt to accurately quantify the potential impacts that the drought will have on the agricultural economy in our County. It is estimated that 500,000 or more acres of productive farmland may be fallowed this year as a result of the drought. The value of lost crop production is estimated to be \$1.7 billion. The value of lost economic activity tied to reduced crop production is estimated to reach \$5 billion.
- Significantly reduced plantings of iceberg lettuce and broccoli have already occurred. Later in the year we will see reduced production of bell peppers, melons, processing tomatoes and other annual crops. Reduced plantings of these crops will have a major impact on available jobs.

## Solano County (as of 3/3/14)

- Agriculture commissioner may have a proclamation after visit to Washington DC.
- Hay prices have risen to \$22 a bale, forage getting better due to rain.

# County Updates (continued)

## **Madera County (as of 3/4/14):**

- The county has a Drought Task Force meeting scheduled for 03/11/14 to continue drought-related planning efforts with Operational Area Partners. Board of Supervisors are hosting a Water Workshop on 03/04/14 during their regularly scheduled Board of Supervisors session to continue public outreach drought-related efforts.
- American Red Cross (ARC) is working with one of the southern regions in partnering with a water bottling company. ARC is also looking into another water resource used in the past, and trying to work out an MOU with them as well. If the MOU is obtained, it will be for emergency distribution only. There won't be enough to do anything long term.
- As of 2/24/14 a majority of the livestock ponds in the Raymond area have dried up. This can lead to increased costs to move water to cattle. Lack of sufficient forage makes supplemental feeding necessary. One outside source of hay sold for \$220 a ton seven months ago; it's now going for \$390 a ton.
- The twenty-nine water systems are currently under a voluntary 20% reduction, and a 10-25% mandatory reduction is being considered by the Board.

## **Kern County (as of 3/4/14)**

- The City Council of the City of Wasco voted on 2/18/14, to begin the implementation of Stage 2 – Mandatory Compliance Water Shortage Alert as specified in Wasco Municipal Code 13.22.050. The actual start date requiring compliance will be March 4, 2014.



# County Updates (continued)

## Siskiyou County (as of 3/4/14):

- Many of the rural counties are split up into "Watersheds". In Siskiyou County the valleys each have their own watersheds and own unique issues. The Scott Valley has the Scott River running through it. The COHO Salmon that is on the Endangered Species list has had the best runs of fish over the last 2 year. Because of this, there are millions of smelts in the river that may be trapped and unable to survive long enough to return to the ocean. Many of the streams are at all-time lows, and water deliveries will be sparse.
- Smaller ranches are selling cattle and trying to keep their equity cows fed and watered through the drought.
- The county is requesting that the State share information/templates relative to strategies, water chlorination, water hauling, etc., and assistance in ensuring that human water needs are balances with fish water needs. The county does not have a drought reduction plan.
- The county-owned hydroelectric facility production will be compromised by the drought condition. The anticipated reduction in revenue will have impacts on the County General Fund and our ability to deliver basic services. The impact has already been seen with regard to the City's Transient Occupancy Tax revenue.
- The Siskiyou County Drought Task is planning on meeting on either 03/05 or 03/06.
- Siskiyou County plans on declaring a local emergency during the 03/11/14 Board of Supervisors meeting.

# County Updates (continued)

## **Yolo County (as of 3/4/14):**

- University of California, Davis campus domestic wells are deep and slow to respond to rainfall, but observed no impacts yet. Actions being implemented are aimed to reduce water use and show leadership in water management.
- The Dunnigan Water District will leave the gates open on the Tehama/Colusa canal open to facilitate fire protection water resources provided the water level in the canal stays high enough.
- The county is not planning on declaring a drought emergency as they are currently covered under the USDA and State declarations for access to Small Business Administration and Individual Assistance. The situation will continue to be monitored in the event that the need for access to more is facilitated by a local declaration, it will be considered. No cities or special districts have or are considering proclamations at this point in time.

## **San Francisco City/County (as of 3/4/14)**

- All city departments have been directed to take steps immediately to reduce their water consumption by at least 10%.
- By 4/1/14, the county will develop a plan and timeline for replacing potable water with non-potable water sources for street cleaning.
- The county has no drought response plan, but is gathering operational documents and developing hazard analysis.

# County Updates (continued)

## Sutter County (as of 3/4/14):

- Sutter continues to coordinate with the OA and the water districts on the water systems and ground water conditions. Sutter is coordinating closely with their Ag department and the USDA.
- Sutter County Office of Emergency Services and Public Information Officer will attend the Yuba-Sutter Chamber of Commerce meeting on 3/4/14 to discuss and address any concerns due to the drought.
- There is a need for State Mutual Aid with the primary concern being insufficient forage for livestock grazing within the Sutter Buttes. Ranchers hay stocks are dwindling rapidly due to the need to supplant the dry land pastures. Secondary concern is lack of water for livestock. Water wells will definitely fail by summer, adding costs to re-drill and replace pumps. Concerns surround costs to transport potable water to ranches.

## San Mateo County (as of 3/3/14)

- At the February 27 meeting of the County's Emergency Managers' Association of which our municipal/water utilities and districts are invited; 18 of the 26 members of the The Bay Area Water Supply and Conservation Agency (BAWSCA) are from San Mateo County. BAWSCA represents the interests of its members that purchase wholesale water from the San Francisco regional water system. The members are already reporting their facts and figures to State Health/Water Division.
- The Op Area and BAWSCA will plan a drought planning meeting soon.

# County Updates (continued)

## **Tuolumne County (as of 2/21/14):**

- The County needs to evaluate the ground water systems that support 136 small water agencies and private well and septic owners that are not part of the Tuolumne Utilities District System (TUD). The County does not have a water master or other expertise to assist in determining the health of our ground water system. The County has requested state agency assistance with this determination. DWR is the lead state agency for this request.

## **Nevada County (as of 3/3/14)**

- Nevada Irrigation District (NID) Board Meeting was held on Wednesday 2/26/14 and decided to delay decision on mandatory restrictions until their 3/12/14 board meeting due to the recent storms.
- A Drought Task Force meeting was held on Friday 2/28/14 with no significant actions to implement at this time. The next DTF meeting will be scheduled in accordance with the 3/12 NID Board Meeting results.
- CDPH and Cal OES will visit our Vulnerable Site - Washington Conservation Camp on the morning of 3/4/14. Representatives from County OES, EH and PH will also attend.

## **Sierra County (as of 3/4/14)**

- The Board of Supervisors will be forming a Drought Task Force Committee on March 3, 2014.
- A joint Drought Workshop sponsored by Sierra County and Feather River RCD's was held on Feb 28, 2014 with farmers and ranchers from both counties attending.

# County Updates (continued)

## **Plumas County (as of 3/3/14):**

- Ag Producer Workshop very well attended. Topics addressed included agricultural water issues, noxious weed control strategies, pasture and forage management, public lands grazing, livestock and herd health, economics and risk management, and media skills for agriculture. In spite of public assistance outreach efforts, local small/family farmers concerned they may not be eligible for most/any federal assistance programs.
- Next Drought Preparedness Task Force meeting March 17.

## **Merced County (as of 2/28/14):**

- Merced County has established a Drought Task Force and their first meeting will be on 3/19/14.

## **Amador County(as of 2/28/14)**

- Amador County continues to monitor the drought situation and consider appropriate actions in response.

## **El Dorado County (3/3/14)**

- El Dorado Irrigation District (EID) is still at Stage 2 drought warning and continuing their Public Information outreach program asking customers for a voluntary 30% reduction in water consumption. Next scheduled EID Board meeting is March 10, 2014 at which time any drought related rate increase proposals and any change to the warning stage level will be discussed.

# County Updates (continued)

## San Diego County (as of 2/28/14):

- San Diego County OES continues to monitor the drought situation. At least 15 of the 24 water agencies are in the Drought Water/Response Level 1 of the Water Plan or are in some kind of water conservation/water waste prohibition status (it may be more but 15 have confirmed this). The County Agricultural Commission's Weights and Measures web page has drought information for local farmers, and they also hosted information on the CDFA/USDA resources informational session held in Escondido earlier this week.
- San Diego County OES plans to attend the California Water Commission's Workshop on Small Water Systems in Southern California, to be held Monday, March 3. This is a public workshop focusing on the challenges facing small water systems in rural, urban and disadvantaged communities. The Commission is interested in addressing the disproportionate impact of the drought on some small communities. Many agencies working on drought response actions will be present, including the public health perspective on the drought.

## Stanislaus County (as of 3/6/14)

- Held Drought Task Force conference call 3/3/14. No new changes to report. Next Drought Task Force meeting is scheduled on March 19th.
- On February 25, South San Joaquin Irrigation District voted to maintain the water level at Woodward Reservoir at a point that would not allow body-to-water contact, for the time being. However, the District indicated at this meeting that they would re-evaluate this decision at their April 8th meeting. The lower water level is not currently critical to Woodward's remaining open. As Woodward remains open there are no economic impacts to Stanislaus County at this time. Impacts as a result of decisions made at the April 8th meeting will be evaluated at that time.



# County Updates (continued)

## **Butte County (as of 3/6/14):**

- On 3/6/14 Paradise Irrigation District (PID), Municipal water source for Town of Paradise, submitted e-mail request to the Division of Safety of Dams requesting authorization to increase the mandated water level of the Magalia Reservoir from 2,200 feet elevation to 2,205 to 2,210 in elevation. This would be a temporary request to assist PID in meeting water demands.
- Division of Safety of Dams ordered PID to lower the water level at Magalia Dam due to earthquake concerns back in the 80's. PID is seeking a temporary waiver so they can capture more water to increase their supply.

## **Lake County (as of 3/6/14)**

- On 03/04/14 passed a resolution proclaiming a Local Emergency due to drought conditions. Request for CDAA but no specific damage claims. No other significant changes.

# Weather Synopsis by Region

Information as of 3/7/14

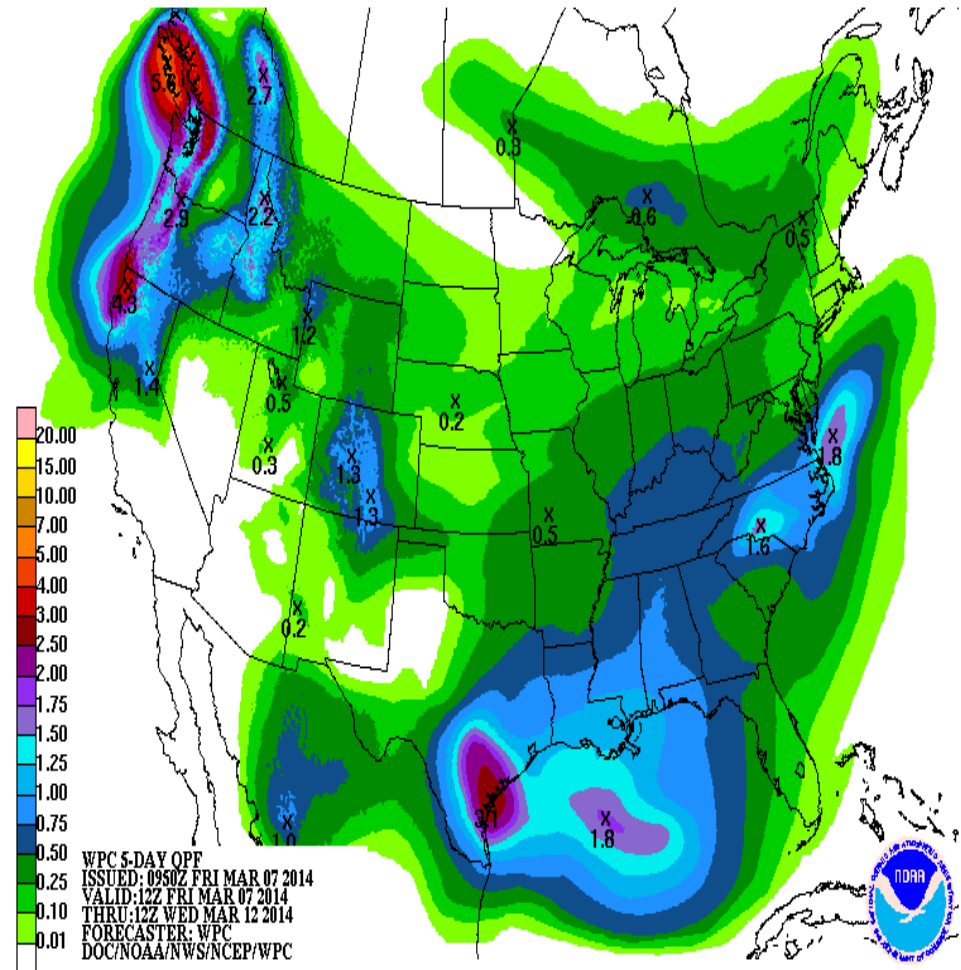
## Northern & Central California

### Eureka Weather:

High pressure moved into the area overnight and will continue today and Saturday. The next system will bring moderate to heavy rain Saturday night and Sunday morning. A return to a drier pattern is expected next week.

### San Francisco Weather:

High pressure will bring mostly sunny and seasonably mild temperatures to the Bay Area today through Saturday. A warm front will move into the North Bay Sunday with a chance of light rain. Rain chances will spread southward into the greater Bay Area on Monday, with showers ending by Monday evening as high pressure begins to build. Expect mild and dry conditions Tuesday through Friday.



<http://www.hpc.ncep.noaa.gov/qpf/day1-7.shtml>



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# Weather Synopsis by Region

Information as of 3/6/14

## California Precipitation Graphic

72 hour (3/3/14-3/6/14)

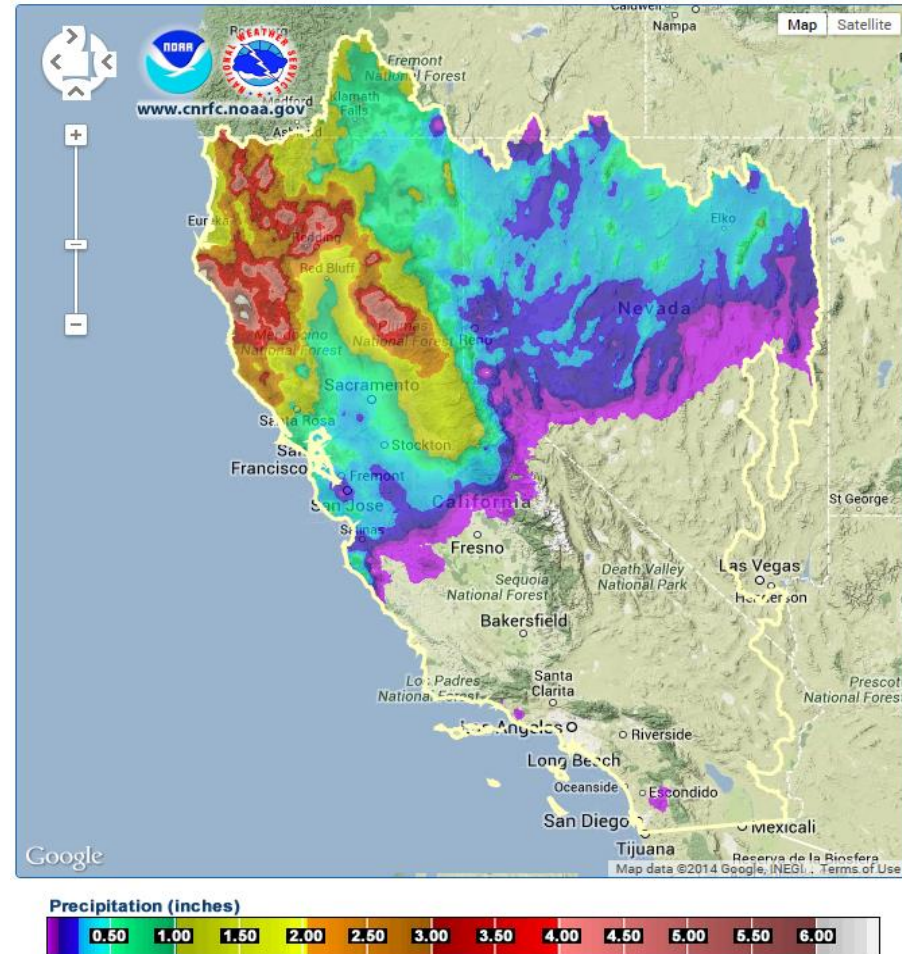
### Central California and Southern San Joaquin Valley

#### Sacramento Weather:

Dry and mild conditions are expected through Saturday. A disturbance Sunday into Monday will bring another chance of precipitation to the area. Dry and mild conditions return for Tuesday and Wednesday.

#### Hanford Weather:

Dry and mild conditions are expected through the weekend as a weak high pressure ridge builds into the region.



<http://www.cnrfc.noaa.gov/google.php>

# Weather Synopsis by Region

Information as of 3/6/14

## Southern California

### Los Angeles Weather:

Gusty winds will continue into this morning. High pressure will build with offshore winds to warm the weekend temperatures to above normal with less cloudiness for coast and valleys. The upper high will move east and a weak upper low will pass to the north early next week for more clouds and cooler temperatures on Monday and Tuesday. A high will approach by midweek for warming temperatures in the last half of the week.

### San Diego, Western Riverside, and Southwestern San Bernardino Weather:

Expect cool with a mostly cloudy start in the coastal basin today, with clearing, sunny skies. Offshore flow will develop today and tonight producing areas of strong gusty winds from the northeast below passes and canyons through Saturday morning. Fair and very warm weather for all areas is expected this weekend. Coastal clouds return Sunday night through Monday night with cooler onshore flow Monday and Tuesday. Fair and warmer weather is expected Wednesday and Thursday with building high pressure and offshore flow.

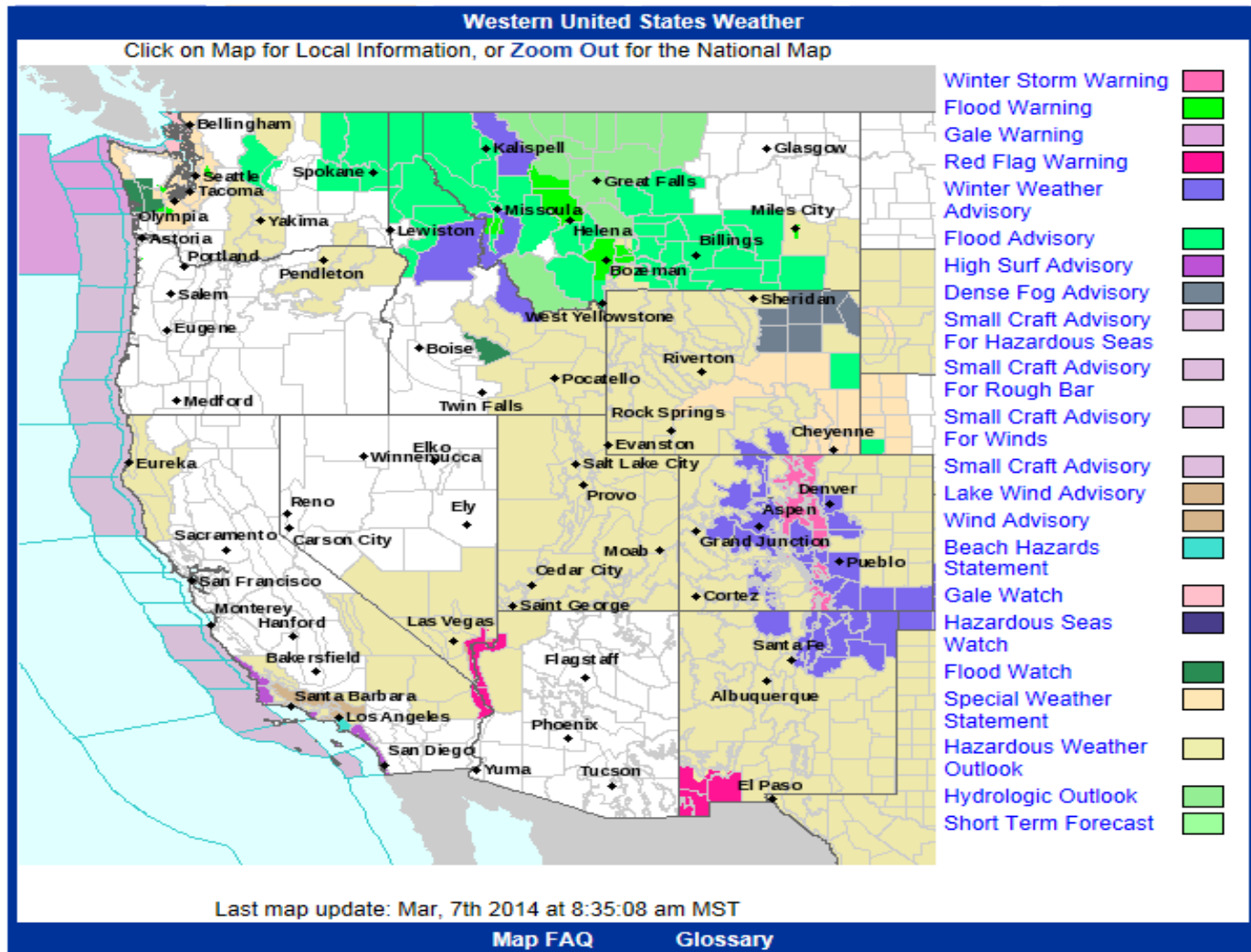
### Southeast California Weather:

Much of the area will experience gusty north winds behind a cold front today, but the strongest winds will be down the Colorado River Valley. Lighter winds are expected Saturday but breezy conditions are still possible down the river. Dry weather is expected through the weekend. Temperatures will be near normal through Saturday then rise to several degrees above normal on Sunday.



# State Weather Map

Information as of 3/7/14



<http://www.wrh.noaa.gov/>



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# National 7-day Significant Fire Potential Outlook



### Legend

#### Fuel Dryness

- Moist - Little or no risk for large fires.
- Dry - Low risk of large fires in the absence of a "High Risk" event.
- Very dry - Low/Moderate risk of large fires in the absence of a "High Risk" event.
- Data Unavailable.

#### High Risk Events

- W** Wind
- H** Hot and Dry
- Lightning

#### Missing Stations

- Yurok
- Whitmore Califo

## California - North Area 7 Day Significant Fire Potential

Predictive Service Area	Wed Mar 5	Thu Mar 6	Fri Mar 7	Sat Mar 8	Sun Mar 9	Mon Mar 10	Tue Mar 11	Wed Mar 12
NC01 - North Coast								
NC02 - Mid Coast								
NC03A - Bay Area-Marine								
NC03B - Diablo/Santa Cruz Mtns								
NC04 - Northwestern Mtns								
NC05 - Sacramento Valley								
NC06 - Northeast CA								
NC07 - Northern Sierra								
NC08 - East Side								

#### Weather

Another Pacific weather system will move onshore today, affecting mainly the Nrn half of North Ops today with showers along with cooler temperatures. Additional precipitation will not be very heavy today, but snow levels will fall to 3500-4000 ft so several inches of snow are possible today across the Nrn Mtns. Brief high pressure ridging Fri-Sat will bring clearing and drying, before another cold front brings more rain by Sun-Mon. A stronger high pressure ridge builds in early next week with a more prolonged warming/drying trend with increasing NE/Offshore flow.

#### Fuels/Fire Potential

Fuels in all areas will remain in the **Moist** category throughout the 7-day period. Plenty of new annual grass growth and perennial brush green-up is expected in the lower elevations with the coming warmer, dry period beginning next week.

For prescribed burners, see the daily Smoke dispersion product at: [http://gacc.nifc.gov/oncc/predictive/weather/daily\\_smoke/Smoke.html](http://gacc.nifc.gov/oncc/predictive/weather/daily_smoke/Smoke.html)

In spite of the fairly good amounts of recent precipitation in many areas, most of Northern California remains in **Severe to Extreme** longer-term drought. Latest map seen at: <http://droughtmonitor.unl.edu/Home/StateDroughtMonitor.aspx?CA>

#### Resources

North OPS: Preparedness Level **1**  
National: Preparedness Level **1**  
MACS Mode **2**

<http://gacc.nifc.gov/oncc/predictive/weather/7Day.pdf>



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## National 7-day Significant Fire Potential Outlook

Username:   
Password:   
[Login](#) [Reset Password](#)

[Index](#)



### Legend

#### Fuel Dryness

- Moist - Little or no risk for large fires.
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- Very dry - Low/Moderate risk of large fires in the absence of a "High Risk" event.
- Data Unavailable.

#### High Risk Events

- Windy and Dry
- Lightning

#### Missing Stations

- Devore

### California - South Area 7 Day Significant Fire Potential

Issued: Thursday, Mar 6, 2014

Parameters:

Predictive Service Area	Wed Mar 5	Thu Mar 6	Fri Mar 7	Sat Mar 8	Sun Mar 9	Mon Mar 10	Tue Mar 11	Wed Mar 12
SC01 - Eastern Sierra								
SC02 - Central Sierra								
SC03 - Southern Sierra								
SC04 - Sierra Foothills								
SC05 - Central Valley								
SC06 - Central Coast Interior								
SC07 - Central Coast								
SC08 - South Coast								
SC09 - Western Mountains								
SC10 - Eastern Mountains								
SC11 - Southern Mountains								
SC12 - Lower Deserts								
SC13 - Eastern Deserts								
SC14 - Central Mojave								
SC15 - Upper Deserts								
SC16 - Northern Deserts								

#### Weather

A weakening front will produce some shower activity over Central California this morning, mainly over the Sierras. Many areas from Monterey and Madera Counties northward received 0.05 – 0.15 inches of precipitation overnight, but Groveland and other areas near Yosemite N.P. had over an inch of rain in heavy showers late last night. Additional rainfall will be light before the precipitation ends by noon. Strong northwesterly flow will follow the passage of this front which will lead to **gusty winds of 20-30 mph with gusts to 40 mph in the Sierras, the Kern County Mountains, the Antelope Valley and areas near Pt. Conception today.** High temperatures today will be around 5 degrees cooler. The winds will become more northerly this evening into the overnight hours which will lead to **gusty north winds of 20-30 mph with gusts to 45 mph along the I-5 Corridor Friday morning. These winds should decrease slowly through the day, but expect breezy conditions to continue through the Cajon Pass and the desert where winds of 20-30 mph will be common through the afternoon hours.** Temperatures Friday will be warmer with highs generally ranging from the 70s in the valleys to the 50s in the mountains. **Winds will turn offshore Friday night and Saturday and local northeast winds of 15-25 mph with gusts to 45 mph can be expected across the inland valleys, the Santa Ana Canyon and in San Diego County.** Much warmer and drier weather can be expected Saturday and highs will reach the 80s in the valleys with minimum RH dropping into the teens by afternoon. Poor RH recovery can be expected both Friday and Saturday nights. The offshore winds should weaken late Saturday with a slow return of onshore flow expected Sunday. Another weak trough may bring light rain to the northern part of the area Tuesday with cool, breezy weather returning to Southern California. No significant rainfall is expected next week.

#### Fuels/Fire Potential

Large fire potential will be low through the period due to the recent rainfall. Expect greenup to continue over the central part of the state with sunny, warm weather supporting rapid grass growth. Over Southern CA, some grasses will continue to emerge for the first time this season. Moisture uptake in brush and shrubs may be limited, as many of these plants are dormant due to the dry weather this winter. Dead fine fuels may become significantly drier over the weekend, but a new grass crop should keep any new fire from spreading. Minimal IA is expected the next 7 days.

#### Resources

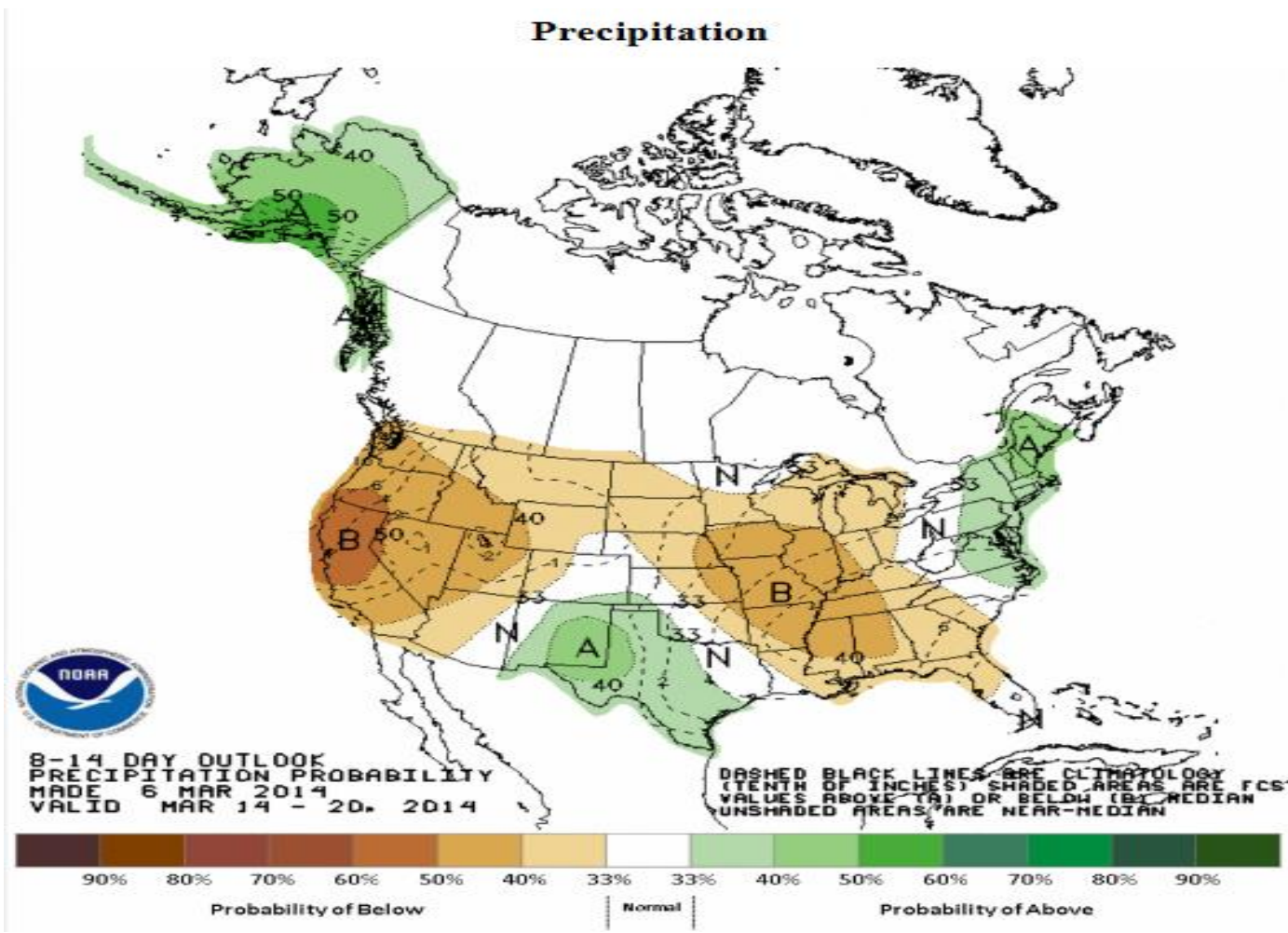
CWCG Preparedness Level 2, MACS Mode 2

<http://psgeodata.fs.fed.us/7day/action/forecast/8>



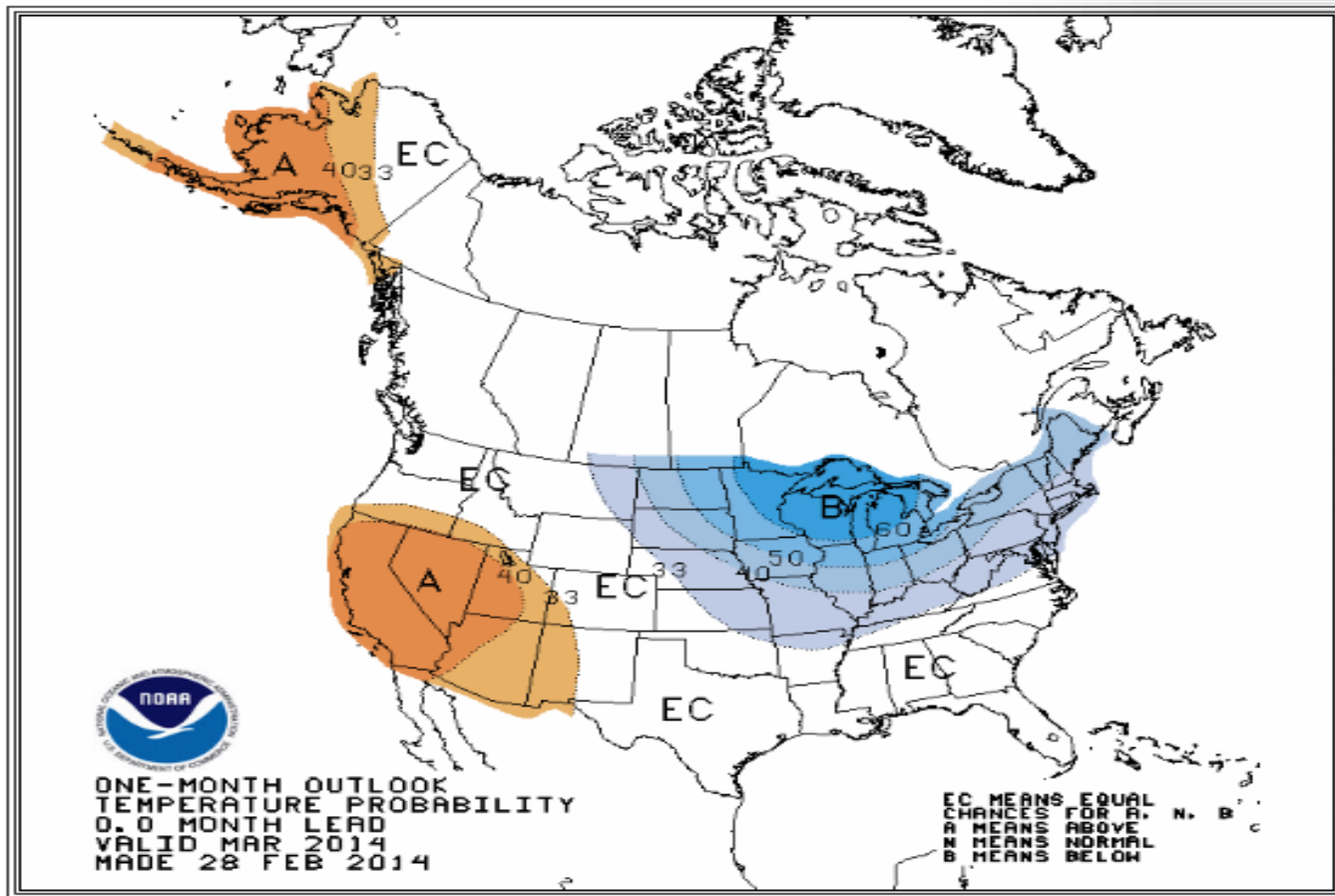
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# 8-14 Day Precipitation Probability Outlook for March 14 – March 20, 2014



<http://www.cpc.ncep.noaa.gov/products/predictions/814day/>

## February-March Precipitation Probability Outlook



There is a greater chance for below normal precipitation in Southern California for the month of March.

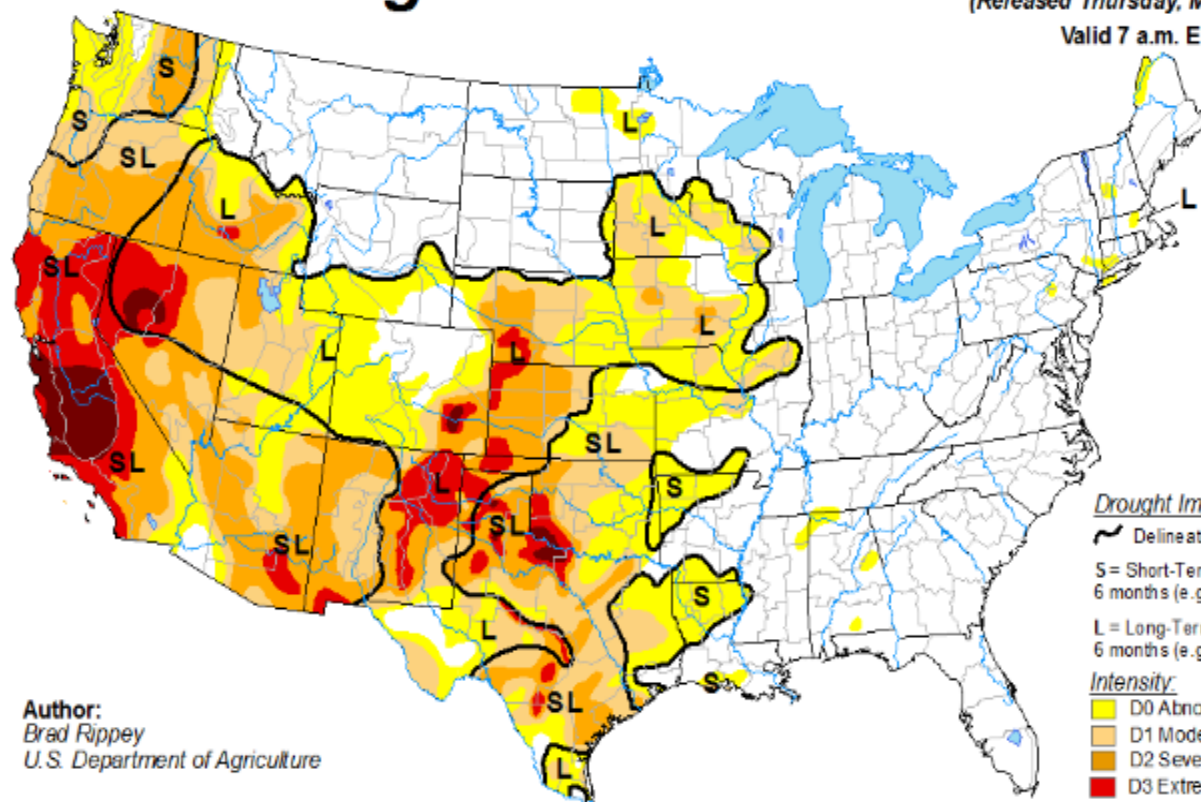
<http://www.cpc.ncep.noaa.gov/products/predictions/30day/>



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# U.S. Drought Monitor

March 4, 2014  
(Released Thursday, Mar. 6, 2014)  
Valid 7 a.m. EST



Author:  
Brad Rippey  
U.S. Department of Agriculture

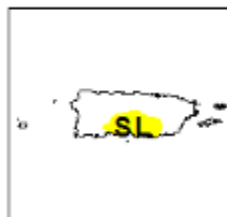
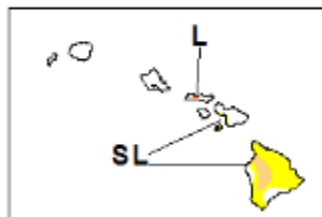
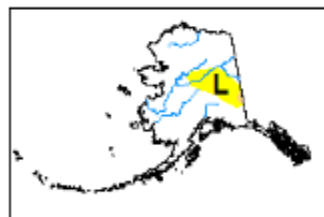
## Drought Impact Types:

- ~ Delineates dominant impacts
- S = Short-Term, typically less than 6 months (e.g. agriculture, grasslands)
- L = Long-Term, typically greater than 6 months (e.g. hydrology, ecology)

## Intensity:

- Yellow: D0 Abnormally Dry
- Orange: D1 Moderate Drought
- Dark Orange: D2 Severe Drought
- Red: D3 Extreme Drought
- Dark Red: D4 Exceptional Drought

The Drought Monitor focuses on broad-scale conditions. Local conditions may vary. See accompanying text summary for forecast statements.



<http://droughtmonitor.unl.edu/>

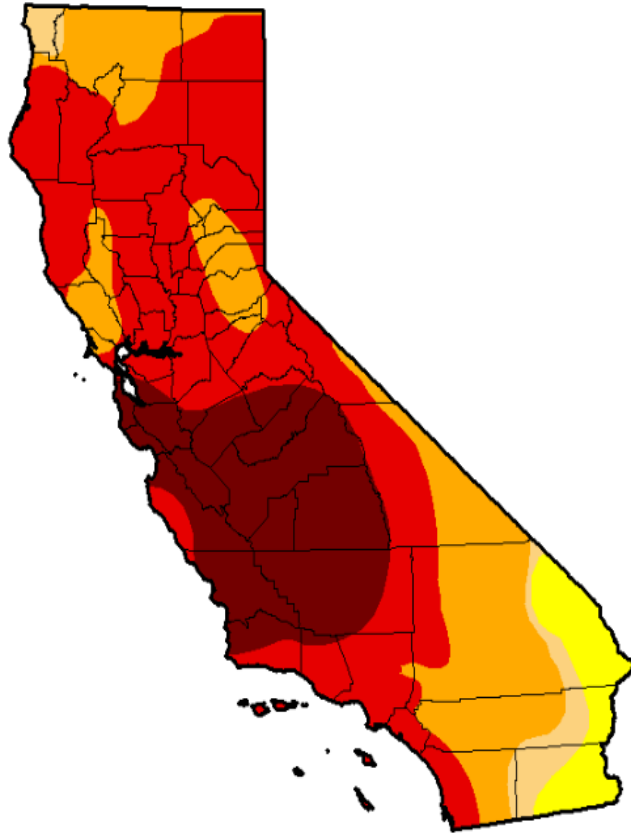
<http://droughtmonitor.unl.edu/>



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# Weather Summary - Current Drought Conditions in California

## U.S. Drought Monitor California



**March 4, 2014**

(Released Thursday, Mar. 6, 2014)

Valid 7 a.m. EST

Drought Conditions (Percent Area)

	None	D0-D4	D1-D4	D2-D4	D3-D4	D4
<b>Current</b>	0.00	100.00	94.56	90.82	65.89	22.37
<b>Last Week</b> 2/25/2014	0.00	100.00	94.56	90.82	73.83	26.21
<b>3 Months Ago</b> 12/2/2013	2.61	97.39	94.15	82.53	27.59	0.00
<b>Start of Calendar Year</b> 12/1/2013	2.61	97.39	94.25	87.53	27.59	0.00
<b>Start of Water Year</b> 10/1/2013	2.63	97.37	95.95	84.12	11.36	0.00
<b>One Year Ago</b> 3/5/2013	0.03	99.97	47.37	26.96	0.00	0.00

### Intensity:

<span style="background-color: yellow; border: 1px solid black; display: inline-block; width: 15px; height: 10px;"></span> D0 Abnormally Dry	<span style="background-color: red; border: 1px solid black; display: inline-block; width: 15px; height: 10px;"></span> D3 Extreme Drought
<span style="background-color: orange; border: 1px solid black; display: inline-block; width: 15px; height: 10px;"></span> D1 Moderate Drought	<span style="background-color: darkred; border: 1px solid black; display: inline-block; width: 15px; height: 10px;"></span> D4 Exceptional Drought
<span style="background-color: darkorange; border: 1px solid black; display: inline-block; width: 15px; height: 10px;"></span> D2 Severe Drought	

The Drought Monitor focuses on broad-scale conditions. Local conditions may vary. See accompanying text summary for forecast statements.

### Author:

Brad Rippey  
U.S. Department of Agriculture



<http://droughtmonitor.unl.edu/>

The D4 (Exceptional Drought) is the worst drought category on the Drought Monitor and **the first time it's been used in California since this monitoring system started in 2000.** The degradation was made due to historically low rainfall amounts so far this winter, long-term precipitation deficits stretching several years, and a growing number of increasingly significant drought impacts. **In addition, 66% of California is now covered by D3/D4 conditions.**

Note: Updated Weekly

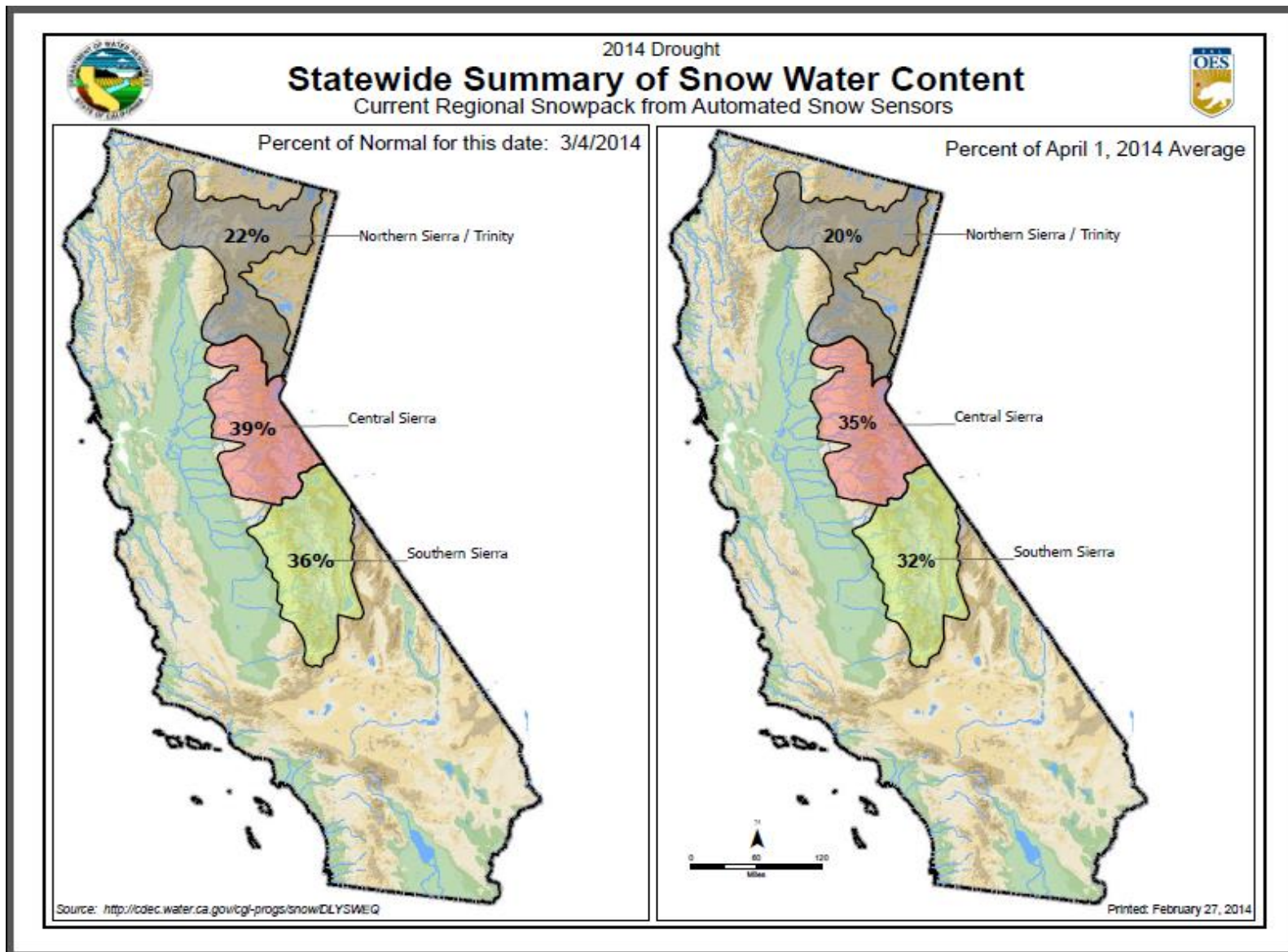
<http://droughtmonitor.unl.edu/Home/StateDroughtMonitor.aspx?CA>

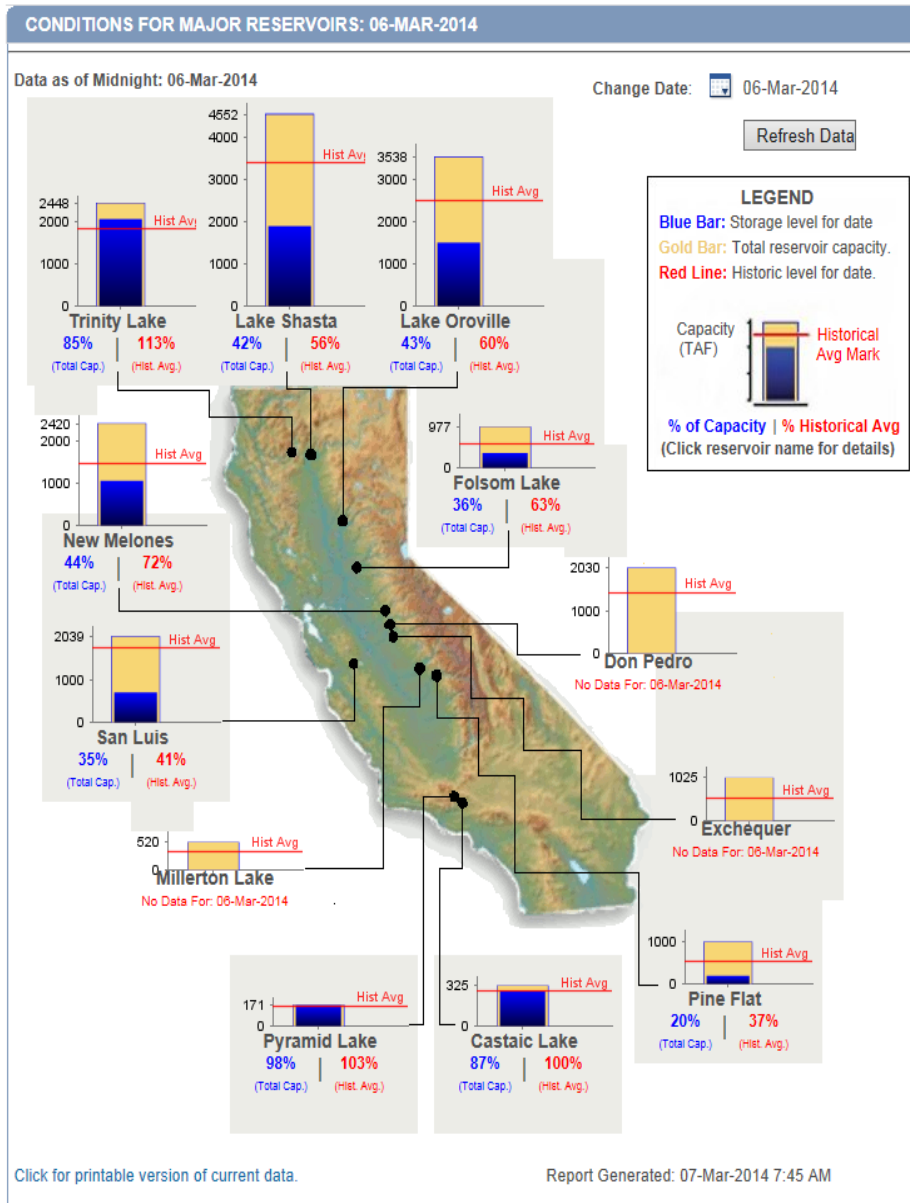
<http://www.wrh.noaa.gov/sto/droughtca.php>



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## Reservoir Levels

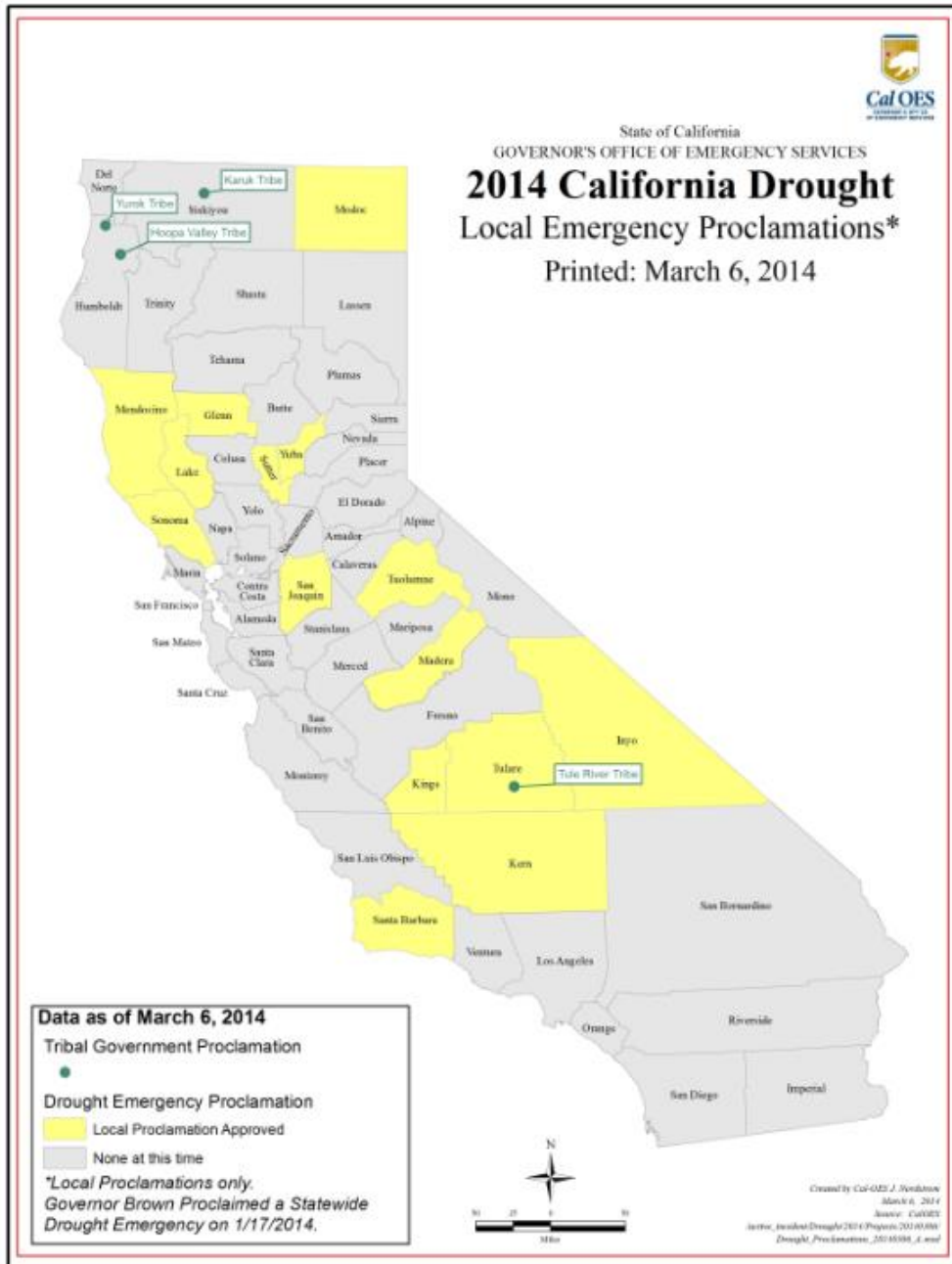
Many parts of California -- including Sacramento and Los Angeles -- marked calendar year 2013 as the driest on record. These extremely dry conditions follow two previous dry years statewide.

Storage in the reservoirs that typically help California cope with dry weather are well below average for this time of year.

River levels are low around the state. Along the North Coast, the Russian River, and the upper Sacramento River, levels are at their lowest points ever for this time of year.

Some water districts with a diversified portfolio of water sources and ample storage -- such as the Metropolitan Water District of Southern California, which serves 19 million people -- are prepared to weather a third dry winter.

Farmers who depend heavily on the State's two biggest water projects, the Central Valley Project and State Water Project, face minimal and uncertain supplies.



## Proclamations

### State

1/17/14 Governor Edmund G. Brown proclaimed a State of Emergency

### Counties

Glenn (1/22/14)  
Inyo (1/29/14)  
Kern (1/14/14)  
Kings (1/14/14)  
Lake (1/17/14, ratified 3/4/14)  
Madera (1/17/14)  
Mendocino (1/7/14)  
Merced (2/25/14)  
Modoc (3/4/14)  
San Joaquin (2/25/14; 30 day continuance)  
Santa Barbara (1/17/14)  
Sonoma (2/25/14)  
Sutter (2/11/14)  
Tulare (2/4/14)  
Tuolumne (2/4/14)  
Yuba (2/18/14)

### Tribal

Hoopa Valley Reservation (1/20/14)  
Yurok Reservation (1/29/14)  
Tule River Indian Tribe (1/30/14)  
Karuk Tribe (2/8/14)

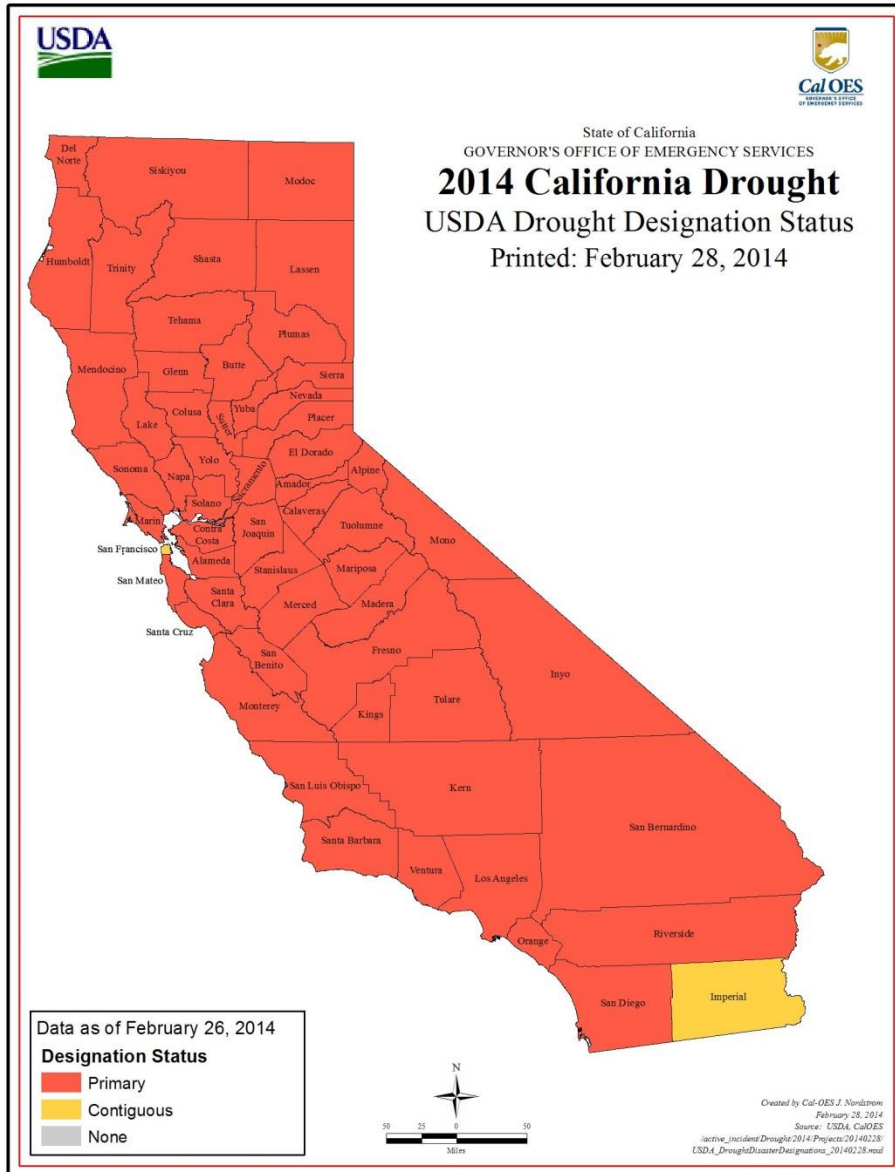
### Federal

None



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## USDA Disaster Designation

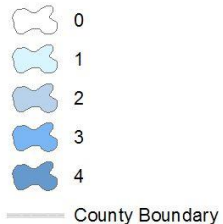
The United States Department of Agriculture (USDA) issued a secretarial disaster designation identifying 56 of 58 counties in California as primary natural disaster areas due to drought and 2 contiguous counties. This means that every county in California is now eligible to receive assistance.

# 2014 SBA\* DISASTERS

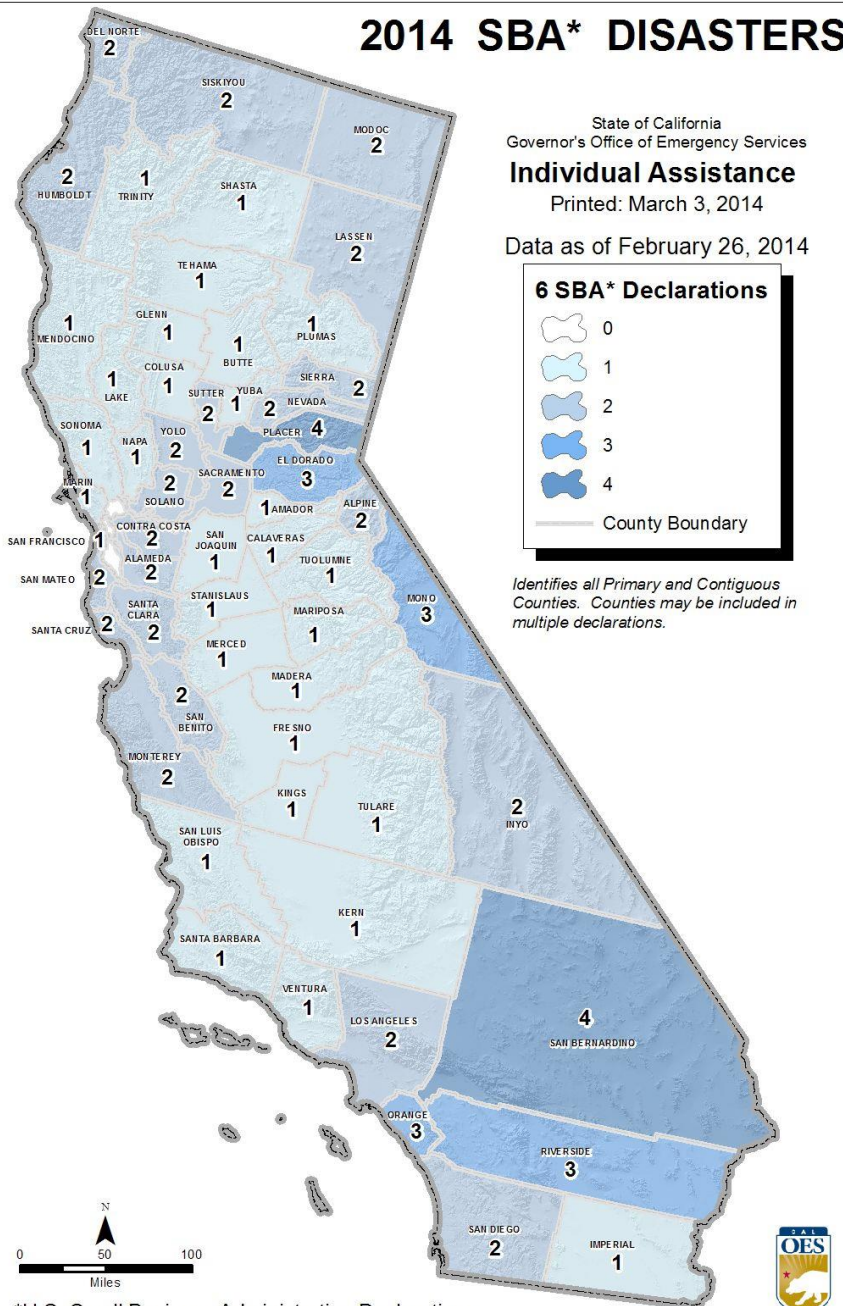
State of California  
Governor's Office of Emergency Services  
**Individual Assistance**  
Printed: March 3, 2014

Data as of February 26, 2014

## 6 SBA\* Declarations



Identifies all Primary and Contiguous Counties. Counties may be included in multiple declarations.



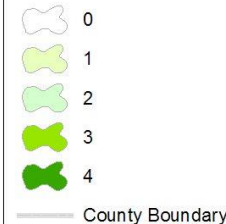
\*U.S. Small Business Administration Declarations

# 2014 USDA\*\* DISASTERS

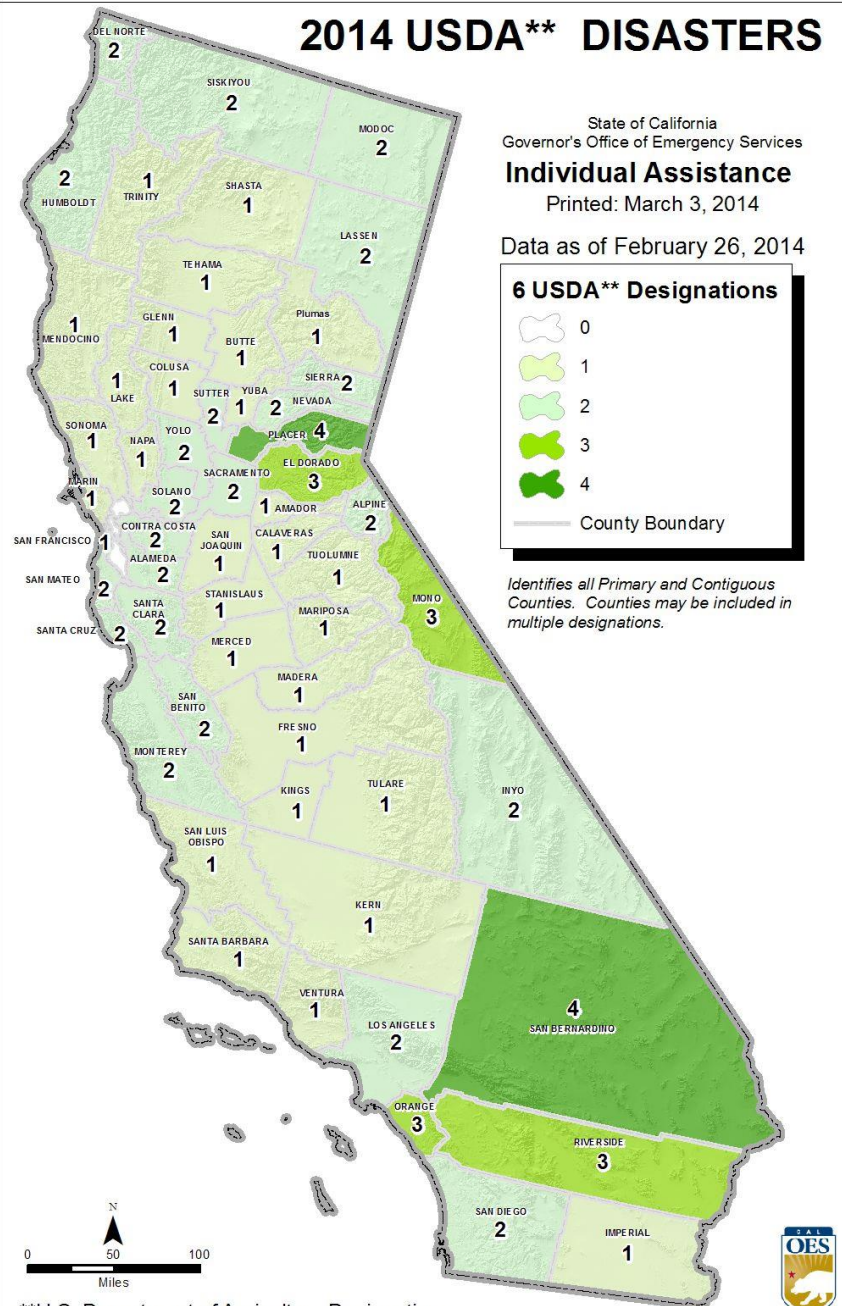
State of California  
Governor's Office of Emergency Services  
**Individual Assistance**  
Printed: March 3, 2014

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\*\*U.S. Department of Agriculture Designations